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REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,
provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application
filed on or after June 8, 1995.
See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/343,759
Filing Date	June 30, 1999
First Named Inventor	Raymond J. Hull
Group Art Unit	3724
Examiner Name	M. Rachuba
Attorney Docket Number	PPC0668USDIV

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 18, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

- a. ☐ Previously submitted
- i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on
(any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on
- iii. ☐ Other
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☐ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☒ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☒ Other 1449

2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required.)
- b. ☐ Other

3. Fees - The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed

- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. **10-0750**.
- i. ☒ RCE fee is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
- ii. ☐ Extension of Time (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. ☐ Other
- b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$_____ enclosed
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (print/type)	Joel A. Rothfus	Registration No.	33,277
Signature	/Joel A. Rothfus/	Date	November 21, 2006

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

Name (print/type)

Signature

Date

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Substitute for form USPTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (see as many sheets as necessary) Sheet 1 of 1	Application Number	09/343,759
	Filing Date	June 30, 1998
	First Named Inventor	Raymond J. Hull
	Group Art Unit	3724
	Examiner Name	M. Rachuba
	Attorney Docket Number	PPC0668USDIV

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
		3,796,219	A	Hanke	03/1974	
		4,342,314	A	Randel, et. al.	08/1982	
		5,185,010	A	Brown, Jr.	02/1993	
		5,688,257	A	Olsen	11/1997	
		5,728,448	A	Johnston, et.al.	03/1998	
		5,755,906	A	Achter, et. al.	05/1998	
		5,873,971	A	Balzar	02/1999	
		5,928,184	A	Etheredge, et. al.	07/1999	
		6,228,462	A	Lee, et. al.	05/2001	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear	* ⁴
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵				

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 809. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U. S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS, SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet of

Application Number

Filing Date

First Named Inventor

Group Art Unit

Examiner Name

Attorney Docket Number

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Unique citation designation number. 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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